

*Atty Docket: HES 2003-IP-012771
(1391-47600)*

Patent

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of Claims

Claims 1 and 3-44 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 30-34, 36 and 39 have been amended. Claims 2 and 45 have been canceled.

Applicants hereby request further examination and reconsideration of the presently claimed application.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Applicants have amended claims 30-34 and 36 to overcome the indefiniteness rejection.

The 112 rejections of claims 39-43 for indefiniteness and claims 1, 3-5, 11-17, 19, and 39-43 for non-enablement are now moot in view of the amendments to overcome the prior art.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to include the limitations of objected to claim 2, and therefore claim 1 is now allowable over the art as indicated by the Examiner. Likewise, Applicants have amended independent claim 39 to include the limitations of objected to claim 45, and therefore claim 39 is now allowable over the art as indicated by the Examiner. As a result of these amendments, independent claims 1, 21, and 39 are allowable, as are claims 3-20, 22-38, and 40-44 depending there from, respectively.

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CONCLUSION

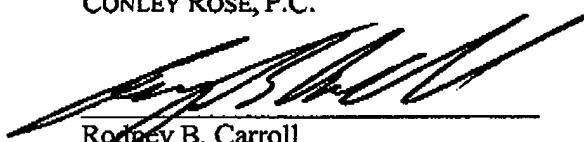
Consideration of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application, and withdrawal of the rejections and objections is respectfully requested by Applicants. No new matter is introduced by way of the amendment. It is believed that each ground of rejection raised in the Office Action dated July 22, 2004 has been fully addressed. If any fee is due as a result of the filing of this paper, please appropriately charge such fee to Deposit Account Number 50-1515 of Conley Rose, P.C., Texas. If a petition for extension of time is necessary in order for this paper to be deemed timely filed, please consider this a petition therefore.

If a telephone conference would facilitate the resolution of any issue or expedite the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

CONLEY ROSE, P.C.

Date: 10-22-04



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